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NSC BRIEFING

SINGAPORE

I. The British colony of Singapore is facing the prospect of a Commie-influenced government on the eve of the establishment of internal self-rule.

A. Following general elections on 30 May and proclamation of new constitution within a week, the British role will be limited to control over foreign affairs, defense and a major voice in internal security.

B. British will retain control of Singapore's large air and naval installations for unspecified period.

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II.

[REDACTED] People's Action party likely to win elections.

A. This party, while outwardly moderately socialist, is in fact heavily-infiltrated by Commies.

B. People's party strength based on "grass roots" organization vastly superior to any other Singapore party.

1. Party has great appeal to the Chinese population which is largely mainland-oriented and influenced by left-wing political thought.

2. Moderate and conservative opposition disunited.

3. Moderate party of present Chief Minister Lim Yew Hock hurt by corruption charges.

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C. New Prime Minister likely to be People's party leader Lee Kuan Yew, brilliant young Cambridge educated lawyer, [REDACTED]

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III. Following are possible immediate consequences of a People's Party government in Singapore:

- A. Government will be basically anti-Western.
- B. Anti-subversive control measures will inevitably be relaxed.
 - 1. British will risk widespread riots if they make extensive use of their security powers.
- C. The probable release of jailed outright-Communist leaders to continue their disruptive activities.

IV. Because of British strength, however, no government in Singapore could openly use Communist methods of government.

- A. Nevertheless, in long run, pro-Commie govt may be able make the British position untenable and neutralize Singapore's military installations in international emergency.